



# NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

## Education Services Newsletter

Winter/2009



Part of our mission is "to provide opportunities for offenders to successfully re-enter the community through education, training, treatment, work and spiritual development."

### WELCOME TO THE FIRST EDITION OF NDOC'S EDUCATION SERVICES NEWSLETTER

The intent of this and future newsletters is to increase awareness of the Education Division's mission and to enhance communication statewide regarding educational events and issues, specifically best practices and policy changes. This is our newsletter and I value any suggestions you have to improve its effectiveness and any articles you would like to share.

### Statewide Training Schedule for Volunteers and Teachers

#### Carson City

Where: 5500 Snyder, Bldg. 17 Carson City, NV 89702  
When: Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup> 9:00am-1:00pm  
Facilitator: Scott Burchett

#### Las Vegas

Where: Casa Grande Training Rm. 3955 W. Russell Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89118  
When: Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> 12:00pm-4:00pm  
Facilitator: Dan Lee

#### Contacts for:

Volunteers: Nancy Derloshon  
775 887-3249  
[nderloshon@doc.nv.gov](mailto:nderloshon@doc.nv.gov)

Teachers: Kim Petersen  
775 887-3237  
[kspetersen@doc.nv.gov](mailto:kspetersen@doc.nv.gov)

#### Reminders:

#### To become a volunteer/teacher:

1. You will need to fill out an application and give details of your experience, skills and abilities. (Additional information will be required for teachers such as special licenses etc.)
2. You must agree to submit to an initial criminal history background check by the Department and the Department can conduct subsequent checks at any later date.
3. You must submit proof of a current Two-Step Tuberculosis test and be retested annually thereafter.

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Volunteer applications, required forms and directions outlining the submittal process will be available on our Website [www.doc.nv.gov](http://www.doc.nv.gov) March 2009.



"Volunteering has given me a renewed interest in people, plus a sense of purpose that was lacking after the years of my active working life had ended."- anonymous volunteer

**"I feel that we are all part of a community and it is our responsibility as individuals to contribute and help each other in anyway we can."- anonymous volunteer**

4. You must complete the Department's initial Volunteer Training before entry to any facility and complete Refresher Volunteer Training every three years.
5. You may not bring any telecommunication device into any NDOC facility.

If you have not completed steps 1-3, please do so prior to training, room is limited and anyone without a background check or proof of TB test may be denied access.

## SHOULD I BECOME A VOLUNTEER?

Before making a commitment, you should consider the following:

- **Do you clearly understand what is expected of you?**
- **Do your values, ethics and goals conflict with those of the program?**
- **Will your contribution be meaningful to you?**
- **Will your objectives in volunteering be met?**
- **What are your home and business commitments?**
- **Do you know your travel time and method?**
- **What are the potential costs, such as transportation?**
- **What provision can be made if there is a need to change your commitment?**
- **Do you have the time available?**
- **Don't over commit yourself.**

## DO YOU KNOW THE CHALLENGES FACING NEVADA'S EDUCATORS?

Nevada ranked worst among all 50 states in percentage of:

- teens who are high school dropouts,
- teens not attending school and not working,
- young adults enrolled in or completed college.

### Economic Impact:

- it costs approximately six times more annually to incarcerate an individual than to educate him or her,
- the earnings potential of a high school dropout versus a college graduate differs by more than one million dollars over a 40-year career.

### Social Impact:

- more than 80% of America's prison population consists of high-school dropouts. In fact, dropping out of school makes youth 3.5 times more likely than high school graduates to be arrested.

### "READY FOR LIFE"

Nevada Dropout Prevention Summit November 12, 2008

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**When combined with other rehabilitative programs, education is a powerful factor in reducing recidivism.**



**Education has been the longest running and most successful program in our prison history.**



And according to The National Correctional Education Association:

- Inmates who earn an AA/AS are 70% less likely to recidivate than those who do not complete a program.
- Inmates who earn a GED are 25% less likely to recidivate than those who do not complete a program.
- Inmates who earn a vocational certificate are 14.6 % less likely to recidivate than those who do not complete a program.
- Inmates who complete substance abuse programs are 6.2% less likely to recidivate than those who do not complete a program.
- Inmates who participate in prison education programs earn higher wages upon release than nonparticipants.
- Inmates in prison education, vocation and work programs are more likely to be employed following release and have higher earnings than nonparticipants.

**Meritorious Credit Update**

<b>Education Programs-</b>	<b>Sentenced Before 7/17/97</b>	<b>After 7/17/97</b>
GED	Merit Credits: 30	60
High School Diploma*	Merit Credits: 60	90
College Certificate	Merit Credits: 30	60
Associate's (AA) Degree*	Merit Credits: 90	120
Bachelor's (BA or BS) Degree*	Merit Credits: 90	120
Master's (MA or MS) Degree*	Merit Credits: 90	120

\* Inmates graduating from high school with a 3.5 cumulative GPA or higher (on a 4 point scale) or receiving honors with a first college degree may be awarded up to 60 additional exceptional meritorious credits.

- An inmate must complete at least 15 credit hours of college courses while in prison to earn an award.
- Credit for a second AA, BA/BS degree is discretionary with the Director and for only an additional 90 credits.
- Correspondence courses of any kind are not awarded Merit Credit.

**Vocational/Education Programs-Merit Credits: 60**

- |                                |                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Air Conditioning and Heating   | AutoCAD                   |
| Auto Mechanics/Auto Shop       | Automotive Technology     |
| Business                       | Computers                 |
| Computer Business Applications | Computer Repair           |
| Construction                   | Culinary                  |
| Drafting                       | Dry Cleaning              |
| Entrepreneurship               | Landscaping and Gardening |
| 3-D Studio Max (HDSP)          |                           |

- Must complete all phases/course work prior to receiving meritorious credits.

**For additional approved correctional programs refer to *Section 2 DOC-3077.***

